



Jonathan Davis Wetland Protection (BA-20)

Project Status

Approved Date: 1993 **Cost:** \$28.9 million
Project Area: 7,199 acres **Status:** Construction
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 510 acres
Project Type: Hydrologic Restoration

Location

The project is located in Jefferson Parish, immediately west of Lafitte, Louisiana.

Problems

Maintenance of the wetlands that separate Lake Salvador from the more saline region of the Barataria basin to the south is of paramount importance to the future of the estuary. Wetlands in the project area are increasingly threatened by a transition to more tidally influenced conditions that produce high rates of wetland loss in these low salinity marshes because of their highly organic, soft soil conditions. Due to open oil and gas canals and their position within the basin, this area is predictably at risk of high wetland loss.

Restoration Strategy

This hydrologic restoration project contains structural measures that were designed to improve hydrologic conditions and provide shoreline protection along the southern project boundary. A series of water control structures (shown on map) reduce rapid water exchange and tidal energies, and the shoreline protection provides a stable buffer for the interior marsh from the wave action along Bayou Perot and Bayou Rigolettes. The project will be constructed in four units. The first unit will install the majority of the water control structures. The second unit will install the remaining structures and a segment of shoreline protection. The remaining units will install the bank protection along the southern boundary.



Fragile, highly organic marsh is vulnerable to increased erosive energy caused by tidal fluctuation. Structural measures associated with the project will improve hydrologic conditions by decreasing the amplitude of tidal events.

Progress to Date

The construction of the first unit began in June 1998 and was completed in September 1998. Unit 2 was completed in May 2001. Construction of Unit 3 began in January 2003. Unit 4 has been approved for funding and is currently in the design phase.

This project is on Priority Project List 2.

For more project information, please contact:








Federal Sponsor:
 Natural Resources Conservation Service
 Alexandria, LA
 (318) 473-7756



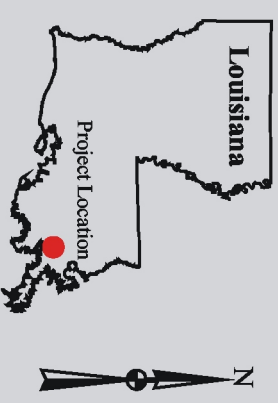
Local Sponsor:
 Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
 Baton Rouge, LA
 (225) 342-7308



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-  Plug
-  Weir
-  Weir with Boat Bay
-  Shoreline Protection
-  Project Boundary

USGS
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Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station

Background Imagery:
1998 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map Date: October 6, 2003
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